

Caitlyn C. Oliver Brown
Curriculum Vitae
Department of Biology, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

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EDUCATION

2024-present **PhD Biology**
Department of Biology, University of New Mexico
Advisor: Dr. Michael Andersen

2021-2024 **MSc Biology**
Department of Biology and Wildlife, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Thesis title: *Divergence and adaptation in Alaska birds*
Advisor: Dr. Kevin Winker

2014-2019 **BSc Biology**, concentration in ecology and evolution, *summa cum laude*
Department of Biology, San Jose State University
Advisor: Dr. Ben Carter

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2025- present Graduate curatorial and teaching assistantships, University of New Mexico
2021- 2024 Graduate curatorial assistantship, University of Alaska Museum
2021 Wildlife Technician, University of Wisconsin Madison
2020 Field Technician, USGS Western Ecological Research Center
2019 Summer Intern, Siskiyou Deer and Puma Project

PUBLICATIONS

2. **Oliver Brown, C.C.**, Collier, K.A., Tan, D.X.J., Mills, K.K., Spaulding, F., Glenn, T.C., Pruett, C.L., & Winker, K. (2025). Evidence of positive selection and a novel phylogeny among five subspecies of song sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) in Alaska. *PeerJ*, 13, e19986. <https://peerj.com/articles/19986/>
1. **Oliver Brown, C. C.**, Glenn, T. C., & Winker, K. (2025). Gene flow accompanies divergence in Beringian birds. *Molecular Ecology*, 34(18), e70056. <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.70056>.

PRESENTATIONS

Oliver Brown, C.C., T.C. Glenn, & K. Winker. Gene flow accompanies divergence in Beringian birds. American Ornithological Society Annual Meeting; Oct 1-6, 2024. Oral presentation.

Oliver Brown C.C., Collier K.A., Mills K.K., Spaulding F., Glenn T.C., Pruett C.L., Winker K. Evidence of positive selection and a novel phylogeny among five subspecies of Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) in Alaska. Alaska Bird Conference; Dec 11-14, 2023. Oral presentation.

Oliver Brown C.C., Collier K.A., Mills K.K., Spaulding F., Glenn T.C., Pruett C.L., Winker K. Phenotypic and genomic variation in five subspecies of Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) in Alaska. American Ornithological Society and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists Joint Meeting; Aug 8-12, 2023. Oral presentation.

Oliver Brown, C.C., Carter B.E. Testing for population-level morphological variation of museum specimens of Clark's Nutcrackers (*Nucifraga columbiana*). American Ornithological Society Annual Meeting; June 24-28, 2019. Poster.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of New Mexico
2026 BIOL 406L/506L Global Avian Diversity and Systematics (26 undergrad/grad students)
University of Alaska Fairbanks
2023 BIOL F426 Ornithology (14 undergraduate students)

FIELD EXPERIENCE

2023 Alaska: Aleutian Islands, collecting (10 & 14 days)
2021 California: Sierra Nevada Mountains, wildlife technician (3 months)
2020 California & Nevada: wildlife technician (4 months)
2019 California: Cascade Range, wildlife intern (2 months)

GRANTS AND FUNDING

2025 UNM Biology Department: Alvin R. and Caroline G. Grove Research Grant (\$1,000)
2025 UNM Graduate Research Allocations Committee Research Award (\$400)
2024 Museum Research Traineeship, University of New Mexico (\$34,000)
2023 UAF Graduate School Travel Grant (\$1500)
2023 ASUAF Travel Grant (\$700)
2023 Betty A. Anderson Memorial for Avian Studies (\$2500)
2023 Jim Stelmock Memorial Scholarship (\$1000)
2023 American Ornithological Society Travel Grant (\$900)
2019 American Ornithological Society Travel Grant (\$400)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Curatorial skills: field collection (~140 specimens), museum preparation (~300 specimens)
- Bioinformatics software: GATK, Phyluce, δαδι
- Computer skills: command line, R programming, Python scripting
- DNA extraction
- Remote field work

SERVICE & OUTREACH

2022-present Letters to a Pre-Scientist pen-pal (www.prescientist.org/)

University of New Mexico

2025- present Committee for Culture and Climate co-chair, Biology Graduate Student Association
2025- present Secretary, Biology Graduate Student Association

University of Alaska Museum

2023 Halloween at the Museum
2023 Family Day- Feathers
2023 Museum Open House

University of Alaska Fairbanks

2022 Outreach Coordinator, Biology Graduate Student Association
2022-2024 Planning Committee, Midnight Sun Science Symposium

San Jose State University

2018-2019 Volunteer curatorial work, Vertebrate Collections

Society Memberships

American Ornithological Society
Society for the Study of Evolution
Society of Systematic Biologists

ACADEMIC AWARDS

President's Scholar, San Jose State University (Spring 2015, Spring 2019)
Dean's Scholar, San Jose State University (Fall 2015, Spring 2016, Fall 2016)